

**Katie Ciarlo**  
**President, Wolcott Citizens Against Substance Abuse**

**\*H.B. No. 7027 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM  
ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR.**

*February 23 2017 Appropriations Subcommittee on Health Public Hearing  
Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Regional Action Council Funding*

Senator Osten, Senator Formica, Representative Walker, Senator Gerratana, Senator Markley, Representative Dillon and members of the Appropriations Subcommittee, my name is Katie Ciarlo and I am the President of the Wolcott Citizens Against Substance Abuse Coalition. I am writing to you to strongly oppose the grave cuts to regional action councils that will decimate the current prevention network structure.

The Central Naugatuck Valley Regional Action Council has been and continues to be integral to our community and our coalition. Without the CNVRAC we would not have resources available to implement many of the prevention efforts that we put forth in the Wolcott community. The support and assistance provided by the CNVRAC allows our coalition to utilize environmental strategies for substance abuse prevention and supports us in our struggle to fight the opioid epidemic both locally and statewide. The CNVRAC staff is invaluable to our mission to combat the epidemic and empower our community members with education. The CNVRAC was instrumental in helping us obtain a prescription drug drop box and our local police station.

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